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of Northampton, within a little more than a year, of cold, hunger, and privation (pp. 79-81). A vivid notion of mediæval student life may be obtained from the presentments growing out of student brawls at Oxford (pp. 87-91).

But though chiefly interesting historically, these rolls, though only records of presentments, contain much of interest to the lawyer. We see here the machinery of appeal in four county courts and the operation of the hue and cry. A man who in felling a tree had accidentally killed a girl, was ordered arrested, because he had not raised the hue (p. 38). Felons abjured the realm before coroners: we have instances here where such a felon, having fled from the highway, was followed by a vill and beheaded as he ran (pp. 37, 76). A survival of a very old form of deodand is discoverable in passages where a well in which a boy had been drowned was ordered closed (p. 42), and a ditch in which a girl had been drowned was ordered filled up (p. 82.) In an interesting presentment it appeared that a man had been wounded in another county, but had died within the hundred where the inquest was held. The inquest was not able to speak of his chattels (p. 74).

This volume is, both in contents and in its editorial work, one of the most satisfactory publications of the Seldon Society. We may properly take pride in the fact that we owe it to American scholarship.

H. B.

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HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF BAILMENTS AND CARRIERS. By William B. Hale, LL.B. St. Paul: West Publishing Co. 1896. (Hornbook Series.) pp. xii, 663.

This new "Hornbook" has the same general characteristics and scope as its predecessors. Meant primarily for students, it loses no value because of the numerous citations of authorities, both English and American, while for the very same reason it is a more satisfactory reference book for the practitioner. Careful study and systematic compilation are manifested throughout the book. Every question is squarely met. Where the decisions are conflicting or unsettled, the author boldly asserts his own views, at the same time explaining the exact state of the law. It is a practical work, for it holds closely to the decisions, and does not present original theories. In fact, to originality the author does not pretend. He acknowledges careful study and frequent use of the works of Judge Story and subsequent writers on bailments and carriers. A comprehensive index has made reference easy. The new "Hornbook" is well worth the room which a lawyer can find for it on his shelves, and will be in demand among law students.

H. C. L.

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A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACTS. By Conrad Reno. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin, & Co. 1886. pp. xiv, 423.

Though Employers' Liability Acts exist in only four of our States, and two of these acts have been in force for only three years, enough cases seem to have arisen under them to justify a text-book on this practically important subject. The very numerous questions which have arisen in the interpretation of these acts, and the frequent references that must be made to the common law on the subject, although the statutory right of action is distinct from the right at common law, have given Mr. Reno

material for a good-sized volume. Such a book is, of course, useful only to lawyers in the States that have such acts, but to them it ought to be an aid in dealing with this very common kind of case. The work seems to have been thoroughly done; the arrangement is systematic; and there is a full index such as is indispensable in this sort of book.

R. G.

**A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF GARNISHMENT.** By John R. Rood. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. 1896. pp. lxxii, 613.

The author's aim has been to produce a volume covering the whole law of garnishment, "fully half" of which "has never been touched upon by any text writer." For those who have one of the former works on attachment, Mr. Rood's book should be a valuable supplement, as the separate treatment of attachment and garnishment has undoubtedly practical advantages. The work is admirably arranged for the purpose for which it is designed, "to make a book of ready reference in which all the decisions may be found." The text contains a clear statement of the principles of law. The notes are copious, giving the citations, frequently arranged under more detailed statements of the exact principle for which they stand, and, more than that, the quotations from the cases are numerous. All the cases down to the time of publication have been collected, a particular advantage in a work on this branch of the law.

E. S.

**HANDBOOK ON THE CONSTRUCTION AND INTERPRETATION OF THE LAWS.** By Henry Campbell Black. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. 1896. (Hornbook Series.) pp. x, 499.

There was no vacant niche in legal literature to be filled by this book. Undoubtedly the subject is one of great and constantly increasing importance; but the field was already occupied by several works of marked merit. The profession had access to Bishop on Written Laws, Wilberforce on Statutes, Endlich (Am. ed. of Maxwell) on Statutes, and Pomeroy's edition of Sedgwick, to say nothing of other works.

If, however, a new book *must* be published, a worse one than Mr. Black's might easily have been written. The work, as a whole, seems fairly done; and especial commendation is due to section 76, on "The Title"; section 70, on "Adopted and Re-enacted Statutes"; and sections 139 and 140, on "Declaratory Statutes."

A remarkable omission should be noticed. The Table of Cases Cited does not contain either *Riggs v. Palmer*, 115 N. Y. 506, or *Shellenberger v. Ransom*, 47 N. W. Rep. 700 (Neb.); s. c. 59 N. W. Rep. 935; which discuss the question whether the statutes of wills and descent should be construed as allowing a murderer to enjoy a legacy or an inheritance from his victim.